

December 7, 2013

## The Life of Mary Jensen



- Mary L. Jensen, 80, of Redfield, died Thursday, December 05, 2013 at Community Memorial Hospital in Redfield. Her funeral will be Monday, December 9, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at Thelen Funeral Home in Redfield. Pastor Lorah Houser Jankord will officiate. Burial will be in St. Bernard's Cemetery in Redfield. Visitation will be Sunday from 2-6:00 p.m. with a prayer service at 4:00 p.m. at Thelen Funeral Home.
- Mary Lynn (Pavek) Jensen was born March 23, 1933 in Britton, SD to James E. and Stacey (Becvar) Pavek. The family (including older sister Helen (Pavek) Stohr and brother Stanley "Butch" Pavek) resided in Huff

ton, SD where James was employed with Cargill, Inc.

- In 1936, they moved to Claremont, SD and Mary Lynn attended school there until she graduated in 1950. She spent one year at Northern State College and went on to work as Deputy Clerk of Courts at the Brown County Courthouse. After taking a Civil Service exam, she took a job at the Bureau of Indian Affairs - a public health division.
- She married Darrel E. Jensen in Groton, SD, April 21, 1956. They lived in Sioux City, IA where he was stationed in the Air Force and she worked on the air base and at Westinghouse until his discharge in the fall of 1956. From there, they moved to Indianapolis, IN, where he was an air-traffic controller and she was employed with Associated Retailers.
- They moved to Claremont, SD and took over the International Harvester Dealership in 1958. During the years in Claremont, their three children were born - Tracy, David and Amy. It was a happy time of 'living on a shoestring.'
- In 1965, they moved to Redfield, SD where they owned and operated Redfield Sales (Chevrolet and John Deere). Later, this became Spink County Equipment. During the John Deere years, they took many trips to Europe, Hawaii and various places where they met many new friends. Darrel retired in 2004 and eventually they decided to make a 'winter move' to Arizona to escape the cold.
- Mary Lynn was a member of St. Bernard's Catholic Church where she served one year as Band Chairman and taught Catechism for 10 years.
- She was an avid Bridge player and loved the Green Bay Packers, Duke Basketball and the Minnesota Twins. Her family meant everything to her - there was no better, happier time in her life than when they were together.
- She is survived by her husband, Darrel, and her three children, Tracy (Pat Schaffer) Jensen, David (Elizabeth) Jensen, and Amy (Jon Gorham) Jensen as well as her grandchildren - Drew, Rhett, Brooke, Erin, Sigourney, Jordan, Max (Schaffer), Alex, Kristen, Erik, Isabel (Jensen), Dagne, Evan, Will (Gorham), and great-grandchildren Rowan, Katja and Nolan; her sister, Helen Stohr, and her nieces, Chris, Sarah and Sherry, and nephews, Jeff and Kim.
- Mary was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, her nephew, Stan, brother-in-law, Emery Stohr, and her husband's parents, Helen and Ed Jensen.